Forest Service

Ashley National Forest Duchesne/Roosevelt Ranger District 85 West Main Street

P.O. Box 981 Duchesne, UT 84021

435-738-2482

File Code:

2810

Date:

August 5, 2015

RECEIVED E-Mail

AUG U 6 2315

Div. of Oil, Gas & Mining

Linda Muir

32 South El Dorado Place West Jordan, Utah 84088-9527

> CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED 7011047000086127004

Dear Linda Muir,

Your Golden Phoenix mining claims, located in the Pole Creek area of the Ashley National Forest, were recently inspected by the Forest Service and Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining. During that inspection, two potentially hazardous mine openings were noted. As owner of the Golden Phoenix mining claims, you are responsible for any mine working or openings within or related to those mining claims, and are responsible for maintaining them in a safe condition. You need to secure these mine openings, and maintain them in a safe condition, in order to minimize your liability should forest visitors become injured within those openings. A photograph showing the two potentially hazardous mine openings is enclosed. The legal location of the mine openings is within the NE 1/4 of Section 26, T3N R2W Uintah Meridian.

We understand that the mine openings in question were created many years ago, and might be difficult to secure properly and safely. However, those mine openings need to be secured as soon as possible, by November 1st of this year at the latest, in order to prevent possible public injury.

Please contact us by September 1st, to let us know how you plan to secure these potentially hazardous mine openings. You may choose to close and reclaim the mine openings, or if you wish to keep the mine workings open and accessible for future exploration, you may choose to gate or otherwise secure the openings to prevent unauthorized access. If you wish to leave the mine workings open, or conduct additional exploration activities on your claims, a Plan of Operations with the Forest Service may be needed for those activities. If we do not hear from





Linda Muir 2

you by September 1st, the Forest Service and/or Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining will secure the mine openings at your expense.

If you have any questions, wish to discuss options, or wish to discuss this issue in person, please feel free to contact our Forest Geologist, David Herron, at 435-781-5218 or <u>daherron@fs.fed.us</u> or by visiting our Duchesne Office during regular business hours. You may also contact Leslie Heppler with the Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining, at 801-656-9020 or lheppler@utah.gov.

Sincerely,

KRISTY GROVES
District Ranger

Ashley National Forest Service

DANA DEAN

Associate Director - Mining

Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining

cc: Dave Herron, Scott Bingham, Leslie Heppler

Enclosure: Photo

